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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



## Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

*Bodmin*  
**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF BODMIN**

**FOR THE YEAR 1943.**

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BODMIN :

PRINTED BY W. H. PHILLIPS, FORE STREET.







# **ANNUAL REPORT**

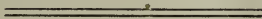
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## TO THE BODMIN BOROUGH COUNCIL.

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the Year 1943.

### Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)—3,311.

Population—5,527.

Number of inhabited houses end of 1943 according to the rate books—1,255.

Rateable value—£27,482.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£110-11-1.

### Social Conditions.

The town is a residential one with no large industries but serves a large agricultural district as a shopping and marketing centre, and in normal times is a favourite holiday resort where various sports such as hunting, fishing and shooting can be indulged in.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics of the year.

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births	38	36	74
Legitimate	34	36	70
Illegitimate	4	0	4

Birth rate per 1,000 of the population - 13·38



	M.	F.	Total.
<b>Still births—</b>	0	1	1
Legitimate	0	1	1

Rate per 1,000 live and still births—13.3

	M.	F.	Total.
<b>Deaths</b>	25	23	48

Death Rate per 1,000 of the population—8.6.

There were no deaths from Puerpural Sepsis or other maternal causes.

**Deaths of infants** under 1 year of age—Nil.

There were no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough, or of children under 2 years of age from Diarrhœa.

The chief causes of death were—

Cancer	.....	10
Heart disease	.....	15
Cerebral Hæmorrhage		2
Nephritis	.....	5
Bronchitis	.....	2
Pneumonia	.....	2
Diabetes	.....	2

Comparison of Birth and Death rates with those of England and Wales:—

		England and Wales.
Birth rate	... 13.38	16.5
Death rate	... 8.6	12.1
Infantile death rate	Nil	4.9



The general health of the district was very satisfactory there being very little sickness. In December there was a mild outbreak of Influenza and a slight outbreak of Whooping Cough during July amongst the children attending the Elementary Schools.

There was only one case of Diphtheria and that a very mild one.

Free immunization against Diphtheria is offered for all children from 1 to 15 years of age the Council paying the Doctors at the rate of half a crown for each injection, many parents availing themselves of the opportunity. Most of the children are done in the various schools after obtaining the parents consent. There is no difficulty with the children themselves who seem to regard the injections as rather an interesting experience.

In April there was an outbreak of Vomiting with some Diarrhoea amongst the children attending the Elementary Schools, 79 of 505 children being affected. The attacks were not very severe and the children soon recovered generally in a few hours. An inquiry was held by the Deputy County Medical Officer. The cause remained obscure, but it was obvious that it could not be due to Milk or or any Food supplied in the School Canteen.



## **General provision of Health Services.**

Medical Officer of Health—J. H. Hobling (part time Officer) who is also Medical Officer of Health for the Wadebridge Rural District, Public Vaccinator and Certifying Factory Surgeon.

## **Sanitary Inspector and Borough Surveyor.**

R. T. Buscombe, who is an Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

## **Ambulance Facilities.**

There is a St. John's Motor Ambulance with trained personnel, also County Ambulances for A.R.P. work and civilian motor vans which are adapted in case of emergency to carry stretchers.

## **Nursing in the Home.**

District Nurses are provided by the County Nursing Association.

There is a Maternity Clinic and Child's Welfare Centre.

## **Hospitals.**

Bodmin and East Cornwall Hospital. This is a Voluntary Hospital for ordinary Medical and Surgical cases in the Borough and surrounding district.



There is an Emergency Hospital for the treatment of Military and Civilian patients suffering from War injuries, also an Emergency Hospital for lying in cases.

Infectious cases are treated in County Isolation Hospital, Truro.

### **Sanitary circumstances of the area.**

#### **Water supply.**

This is not altogether satisfactory being variable in quantity and liable to pollution. There is a Chlorination plant to try and improve matters.

#### **Drainage and Sewerage**

No new work has been undertaken, but the existing sewage disposal works kept in working order

#### **Scavenging.**

There is a regular collection of household refuse by motor lorry constructed for the purpose. The refuse is dealt with by controlled tipping.

#### **Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

Dairies, cowsheds, bakeries and other places where food is dealt with are visited and inspected.

All slaughtering of animals for food is now concentrated in a Government slaughter house, all private slaughter houses being closed. This makes a much better inspection and control over meat possible.



## Housing.

No building is taking place but the Council have schemes ready so that building may be started as soon as circumstances permit.

## Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Total deaths.
Diphtheria	1	0
Pneumonia	1	0
Dysentery	50	0

There were no notifications of Scarlet Fever, Measles or Whooping Cough.

All the cases of Dysentery occurred in the County Mental Hospital.

## Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during the year—

Age period	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
35	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
45	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total—	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	0



No action was taken under the Public Health Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. HOBLING,

Medical Officer of Health.







